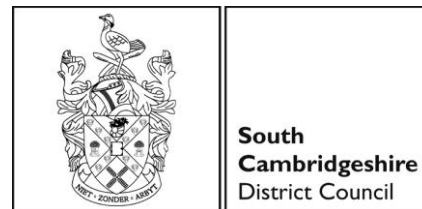


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12 November 2020

To: Chairman – Councillor Jose Hales
Vice-Chairman – Councillor Clare Delderfield
All Members of the Grants Advisory Committee - Councillors
Dr. Claire Daunton, Sue Ellington and Peter McDonald

Quorum: 3

Substitutes: Councillors Bunty Waters, Tom Bygott, Dr. Shrobona Bhattacharya,
Mark Howell, Heather Williams, Bill Handley, Dr. Martin Cahn and
Sarah Cheung Johnson

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend the next meeting of **Grants Advisory Committee**, which will be held in the **Virtual meeting - Online** at South Cambridgeshire Hall on **Friday, 20 November 2020 at 10.00 a.m.** The hearing will be held remotely using the Microsoft Teams videoconferencing system. There will be no access to the meeting at the Council offices, but a live stream of the meeting will be available via Microsoft Teams. A web link enabling members of the Press and public to view or listen to proceedings, will be published on the relevant page of the Council's website, at least 24 hours before the hearing.

Members are respectfully reminded that when substituting on committees, subcommittees, and outside or joint bodies, Democratic Services must be advised of the substitution ***in advance of*** the meeting. It is not possible to accept a substitute once the meeting has started. Council Standing Order 4.3 refers.

Yours faithfully
Liz Watts
Chief Executive

The Council is committed to improving, for all members of the community, access to its agendas and minutes. We try to take all circumstances into account but, if you have any specific needs, please let us know, and we will do what we can to help you.

Agenda

Pages

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest**

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--------------|
| 3. | Minutes of Previous Meeting
To authorise the Chair to sign the Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 30 October 2020 as a correct record. | 1 - 4 |
| 4. | Expansion and Allocation of Mobile Warden Scheme Underspend | 5 - 8 |
| 5. | Date of next meeting
Friday 27 November 2020 at 10:00am. | |

GUIDANCE FOR VISITORS TO SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE HALL

Agenda Item 3

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Grants Advisory Committee held on
Friday, 30 October 2020 at 10.00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Jose Hales – Chair

Councillors: Dr. Claire Daunton Sue Ellington
Peter McDonald Bill Handley

Officers in attendance for all or part of the meeting:

Aaron Clarke Democratic Services Officer
Jay Clarke Programme Manager
Kathryn Hawkes Programme Manager
Jon London Development Officer
Lesley McFarlane Development Officer (Health Specialist)

Councillor John Williams (Lead Cabinet Member for Finance) was in attendance, by invitation.

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Clare Delderfield declared an apology for absence and was substituted by Councillor Bill Handley.

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jose Hales declared a non-pecuniary interest as trustee of Melbourn Mobile Warden Scheme.

Councillor Sue Ellington declared a non-pecuniary interest as a trustee of Swavesey Mobile Warden Scheme.

Councillor Bill Handley declared a non-pecuniary interest as local member of Over & Willingham as the parishes were in the process of setting up a Mobile Warden Scheme.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Grants Advisory Committee authorised the Chairman to sign, as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting held Friday 25 September 2020.

4. Community Chest: Funding Applications

The relevant information was not ready by the time of the agenda publication, this will be brought as part of the minutes to the next meeting of the Grants Advisory Committee.

5. Impact of Covid-19 on Mobile Warden Schemes

The paper outlined how each of the services have had to adapt their model and what the

financial impacts are, which had differed substantially across the Mobile Warden Schemes within the district. The substantive discussion for this item took place under the following item.

6. Mobile Warden Scheme - Allocation of Under-spend

It was remarked that different mobile warden schemes received a variation in funding amounts due to a wide variety of factors. The number of people benefitting from the scheme, the amount the scheme charges, the level of financial reserves that scheme has and how much the Parish Council is contributing to the scheme.

The Committee noted that there was, at the time, no funding commitment from the County Council for the Mobile Warden Schemes. It was remarked however, that there appeared to be some money being awarded from the innovation and cultivation grant for Mobile Warden Schemes across Cambridgeshire. It was commented that the Council should be looking to use the underspend from the procurement operation to give parishes security over long term funding, as many parishes had serious concerns over the long-time viability of the schemes.

Grants Advisory Committee recommended to the Lead Cabinet Member for Finance that:

- The £58k underspend would not be used for existing budgets but increase funding for existing schemes to be considered from April 2021 until March 2024 plus 18 months' worth of part-funding for new schemes from October 2022 until March 2024. Officers would, for the next meeting, work out how much the existing schemes would need come April 2021 and then what would be needed April 2022 for newly created funds.

Any new schemes that applied in the new round of applications starting from November 2020, would also be able to draw money for future funding from this pot.

It was remarked of the need to be wary of inflationary uplifts while looking at medium term financial strategies when securing the future of the Mobile Warden Schemes.

It was **agreed** that officers would go back to the County Council to try to encourage more funding for Mobile Warden Schemes in South Cambridgeshire. It was commented that Age UK were carrying out a cost-benefit analyses for all their Mobile Warden Schemes. As such, it was noted that officers would postpone any conversations with the county until that data could be collected as this would allow savings to be identified to the County Council for funding Mobile Warden Schemes.

It was **agreed** for officers to bring a report back to an extraordinary meeting of the Grants Advisory Committee – 20 November 2020

It was **agreed** to consider changing the terminology to Community Warden Schemes to avoid any confusion with sheltered housing mobile wardens.

7. Impact of Covid-19 on Service Support Grants

The committee noted that the advice services had seen a higher than usual demand for their services due to COVID-19.

Grants Advisory Committee recommended to the Lead Cabinet Member for Finance that:

- The Grants Advisory Committee give consideration to the budget for

Service Support Grants from April 2022 until March 2025.

It was **agreed** that Grants Advisory Committee give consideration to the budget for Service Support Grants from April 2022 until March 2025.

8. Date of next meeting

Friday 20 November 2020 at 10:00am.

The Meeting ended at 11.40 a.m.

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Agenda Item 4



REPORT TO: Grants Advisory Committee

27 November 2020

LEAD CABINET MEMBER: Cllr John Williams

LEAD OFFICER: Jeff Membery

Mobile Warden Scheme use of underspend for medium term funding

Executive Summary

1. Following the Grants Advisory Committee meeting in October 2020, Members agreed to roll forward the monies left from the underspend of the procurement exercise to consolidate and give greater financial support to existing schemes and ensure adequate financial support for the new schemes setting up now and currently funded to September 2022.
2. This paper explores the options as to the best use of this additional funding.

Key Decision

3. No

This report seeks to provide options to GAC for recommendation on to the Lead Member for Finance.

Recommendations

4. The Grants Advisory Committee is asked to review the report and decide how to allocate the underspend remaining from the original procurement budget for the existing and new schemes from April 2021-March 2024.

Reasons for Recommendations

5. The budget allocation for existing schemes has remained static for many years. Existing schemes will be transferring to three-year contracts from April 2021. An uplift in the size of the grant would allow schemes to provide greater opportunity to expand their services and grow schemes in times where older, vulnerable people need to stay connected with communities and people, combatting loneliness and isolation, whilst being encouraged to self-isolate and protect themselves from Covid-19.

Details

6. Historically the budget for supporting the MWS has remained static for many years except for annual inflationary uplifts.
7. Existing schemes move to three-year contracts from April 2021- March 2024.
8. There is anticipated increased demand for the service across existing schemes as the Covid-19 pandemic continues to influence behaviours and exacerbate isolation and loneliness in the most vulnerable.
9. An additional £115,766 is now available resulting from the underspend following the procurement exercise in July/August 2020.
10. Ten additional new schemes starting this financial year will also be seeking part funding from September 2022 to March 2024 and there will be no funding scheme to apply to until the next 3 year scheme is launched in 2024.
11. Longer term the Committee will need to consider funding for 24+ schemes from April 2024.
12. Provision of on-line workshops for new Schemes on how and where to apply for additional sources of grant funding will be offered by way of additional support to all new schemes.

Options

13. The Grants Advisory Committee could recommend to the Lead Member for Finance:
 1. To use the £115,766 across the three years from April 2021-March 2024 to provide an additional £38,588 per year in addition to the £27,000 already budgeted. Providing a total budget of £65,588.66/year. Consideration will still need to be given to resolve how the Council can support the 10 new schemes with part-funding when their full funding expires in Sept 2022.
 2. Top slice e.g. £40,000 from the £115,766 to leave £75,766 to provide an additional £25,255.33 per year in addition to the £27,000 already budgeted over the period April 2021-March 2024. This would result in a total budget for existing schemes (and any others wishing to set up) of £52,255.33/year. Use the £40,000 to part-subsidise the 10 new schemes for the period October 2022 to March 2024 (18 months).

Implications

14. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk, equality and diversity, climate change, and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered:-

Financial – there are implications as follows:

- a) if option 1 is chosen; whether the Council can provide additional part-funding support to the 10 new schemes whose full funding will come to an end in the middle of the three year funding round and who won't have Council funds available to them otherwise and,
- b) for Mobile Warden Scheme grant funding levels from 2024 onwards.

Staffing: there is a resource implication to setting up funding advice workshops for new MWS – it is anticipated that this will be covered from existing Sustainable Communities and Wellbeing team capacity.

Alignment with Council Priority Areas

A modern and caring Council

Ensure that South Cambridgeshire continues to offer an outstanding quality of life for our residents: the MWS promote a good quality of life for vulnerable residents, assisting directly in supporting independent living, addressing social isolation and loneliness and a wrap around service, connecting residents to other sources of help and advice within the community.

Appendices

None

Report Author:

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